

From: kevin lyda
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: public comment...

The anti-trust settlement as currently described will do nothing to curb Microsofts monopolistic behaviour. Even today i read about the Microsoft UPNP security flaw, I also note that UPNP itself is a tool Microsoft is using to extend its monopoly. Even correctly implemented, the design of UPNP looks suspect from a security viewpoint, but as time goes on firewalls and NAT routers are going to need to run UPNP in order to use certain Microsoft services.

In other words UPNP is being used to extend Microsoft's dominance on the desktop to the firewall arena.

The fact is that if the current situation continues, the hitech field will be held back and even Microsoft will eventually be hurt by its monopoly position. This settlement must do more to push Microsoft away from this path.

Microsoft should be forced to openly describe file formats and network protocols that it uses. It should also be forced to port its most popular desktop applications to other platforms (linux and solaris). In addition as part of its cash settlement to schools, it's offering software. This is cynical to the extreme. The offer made by RedHat to give away its software to schools and have Microsoft just donate computers would do much more for schools, and better address Microsoft's monopoly.

Thanks,

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kevin@suberic.net gpg or pgp encrypted mail is preferred. my
fork()'ed on 37058400 public key is available at:
meatspace place: orbit <http://suberic.net/~kevin/gpg.roo.public.txt>
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